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MAY 7.

ARTHUR ERWIN BROWN, D.Sc., Vice-President, in the Chair.

Twenty-one persons present.

The Chair announced the death of William K. Shryock, a member, April 28, 1907.

The Publication Committee reported that papers under the following titles had been presented for publication:

"Description of New Species of Spioniform Annelids," by J. Percy Moore (April 26).

"A Contribution to the Morphology of *Pyrula*," by Burnett Smith (April 29).

"The Hymenopterous Family *Evaniidæ*," by J. Chester Bradley (April 3).

Origin of the Tropical Forms of the Land Molluscan Fauna of Southern Florida.—DR. H. A. PILSBRY remarked that former writers on this fauna have treated the tropical area in Florida as an outlier of the Antillean zoological province. The speaker recognized two groups of genera, of diverse origin: (1) Antillean genera, consisting chiefly of species also West Indian, such as *Chondropoma*, *Liguus*, *Cepolis*, *Varicella*, etc., concentrated southward, and unknown in the Floridian Pliocene, and (2) Mexican genera, chiefly composed of species confined to Florida, such as *Euglandina*, *Praticolella*, *Drymæus* of the *dormani* type, and apparently *Polygyra*, some of which are represented in the Floridian (Caloosahatchie) Pliocene. The first group he regarded as recent additions to the fauna, which had reached Florida from Cuba and the Bahamas by the agency of hurricanes, drifting trees and the like. The second group probably emigrated from the Southwest during the mild Miocene climate, and entered peninsular Florida on the elevation marking the close of the Miocene. The Oligocene fauna of the Tampa Sillex beds, the speaker thought, had left no descendants. Its snails were of wholly Antillean type, the leading Antillean genera of *Helices*, *Cepolis* and *Pleurodonte* both being represented.

Dr. Pilsbry alluded also to Prof. Alexander Agassiz's conclusion, that the Florida Keys are in process of diminution by solution of the limestone composing them. The former unity of keys now separated accounts for the homogeneity of their land-shell faunas.